these types. Also, memory **40** may be volatile, nonvolatile or a hybrid combination of volatile and nonvolatile varieties. Some or all of memory **40** can be of a portable type, such as a disk, tape, memory stick, cartridge, code chip or the like. Memory **40** can be at least partially integrated with processor **42** and/or may be in the form of one or more components or units.

[0074] In other embodiments, it is contemplated that the bG meter **20** may utilize a removable memory key that is pluggable into a socket or other receiving means (not shown) of housing **22**, and which communicates with the memory or controller of the meter **20** to provide information relating to calibration codes, measurement methods, measurement techniques, and information management. Examples of such removable memory keys are disclosed in U.S. Pat. Nos. 5,366,609 and 5,053,199, the disclosures of which are incorporated herein by reference in their entireties.

[0075] In one embodiment, memory **40** of bG meter **20** includes a calendar that stores a schedule of events which may be representative of times for measuring bG levels, taking medications, visiting a physician or performing other daily tasks, including attending work, school and/or meetings, just to name a few possibilities. In this embodiment, processor **42** is programmed so that an alarm or other indicator on bG meter **20** audibly or by vibration alerts the user to perform each event according to the schedule. Once the event has been completed, a user may provide an indication of same with user entry means **26** and processor **42** is programmed to process and record the indication in memory **40**. In one form, one of user entry means **26** is designated a reminder input. Upon user interaction with the reminder input, processor **42** is programmed to initiate a countdown of a period of time until it activates an alarm or other indicator. Once the countdown is complete, processor **42** is programmed so that an alarm or other indicator on bG meter **20** audibly or by vibration alerts the user to perform the event. In one form, the event is measuring a bG level. In another form, the length of the countdown is determined by the number of times a user interacts with the reminder input within a predefined period of time. For example, a single occurrence of user interaction with the reminder input can set the countdown at one hour while a double occurrence of user interaction with the reminder input can set the countdown at two hours. However, it should be appreciated that different lengths of the countdown as well as arrangements for determining the length of the countdown are contemplated.

[0076] Besides memory **40**, controller **38** may also include clock **44**, display **24**, and entry means **26** associated therewith, along with signal conditioners, filters, limiters, Analog-to-Digital (A/D) converters, Digital-to-Analog (D/A) converters, communication ports, or other types of operators as would occur to those skilled in the art to implement the present invention. In the illustrated embodiment, entry means **26** is defined by a plurality of push-button input devices, although entry means **26** may include one or more other types of input devices like a keyboard, mouse or other pointing device, touch screen, touch pad, roller ball, or a voice recognition input subsystem. Display **24** may include one or more output means like an operator display that can be of a Cathode Ray Tube (CRT) type, Liquid Crystal Display (LCD) type, plasma type, Organic Light Emitting Diode (OLED) type, a printer, or the like. Other input and display means can be included such as loudspeakers, voice generators, voice and speech recognition systems, haptic displays, electronic wired or wireless communication subsystems, and the like.

[0077] As illustrated in FIG. **1** for example, docking device **50** includes a housing **51** which defines its external profile. It should be appreciated that housing **51** can be sufficiently compact so that it can be conveniently hand held and carried by the user. Housing **51** is defined by a sidewall **52** extending around docking device **50** along its elongated sides and first and second ends **58**, **60** and between an upper surface **54** and a lower surface **56**. In one embodiment, sidewall **52** is formed of a unitary construction, although other arrangements of sidewall **52** are contemplated. As illustrated, the external profile of docking device **50** has a substantially parallelepiped prism configuration. In this arrangement, first and second ends **58**, **60** are similarly sized and shaped and surfaces **54** and **56** are also similarly sized and shaped. It should be appreciated however that other configurations for the external profile of docking device **50** are contemplated. Docking device **50** defines an internal receptacle **64** (shown in phantom) extending along a longitudinal axis L of docking device **50** from first end **58** of docking device **50** toward second end **60** of docking device **50**. Internal receptacle **64** is positioned between upper surface **54** and lower surface **56** and generally corresponds in size and shape to the external profile of meter housing **22** of bG meter **20**. Additionally, in the illustrated embodiment, internal receptacle **64** underlies and is positioned adjacent to at least a portion of display **70**, although alternative configurations for the positioning internal receptacle relative to display **70** are contemplated. As indicated by directional arrow A, bG meter **20** is removably positionable within internal receptacle **64** of docking device **50**. At first end **58** of docking device **50**, internal receptacle **64** extends through sidewall **52** and defines a receiving portion **62** in the form of a window or opening. While not illustrated, it is contemplated that receiving portion **62** can be structured to initiate engagement of bG meter **20** with docking device **50** in a pre-determined alignment. For example, receiving portion **62** can include one or more tapered or angled surfaces configured to direct bG meter **20** into internal receptacle **64**. Similarly, while not illustrated, it is contemplated that meter housing **22** of bG meter **20** can have corresponding tapered or angled surfaces to promote its engagement with internal receptacle **64** in the pre-determined alignment. Docking device **50** may also include one or more other compartments or features for storage of lancets, test elements such as test strips **34**, cleaning swabs or other items (not shown) which may be useful with system **10**.

[0078] A connection element **66** (shown in phantom) is positioned in internal receptacle **64** opposite of receiving portion **62**. Connection element **66** is structured to physically engage with connection element **30** of bG meter **20**. More particularly, as bG meter **20** is positioned into internal receptacle **64**, connection element **66** makes contact with and gradually engages connection element **30** of bG meter **20** to define a communication interface between bG meter **20** and docking device **50** once bG meter **20** is fully positioned in internal receptacle **64**. In one form, connection element **66** is a mini-USB plug similar to plug **36** to facilitate engagement with mini-USB port **32** on bG meter **20**. However, it should be appreciated that the form of connection element **66** may vary in alternative embodiments as the form of connection element **30** changes. For example, it is contemplated that the engagement between connection elements **30** and **66** may utilize other types of USB connections along with other types of electronic connectors known in the art. As a further alterna-